



## **Red Bank Regional High School**

### **IB Language Policy**

Language instruction is an essential component to all courses, particularly within the IB Diploma Programme, as instruction in two languages is required. Therefore, in order to support RBR's mission statement, "To ensure the academic success and personal growth of all students while developing a passion for learning," all IB teachers must be language teachers for every student, including students with Limited English Proficiency (LEP).

RBR offers support for LEP throughout their high school career. In 9th and 10th grade, English Language Learner (ELL) aides work closely with the general education teacher and the students to better ensure their success. Within the IB program, there is also a bilingual guidance counselor that assists all IB candidates. As needed, the school provides translators to assist with communication between teachers and parents. All documentation sent home is also translated into Spanish to offer additional support for non-English-speaking families. Other support systems include a daily study hall in which all students can get extra help from teachers, a peer tutoring program established by the guidance department in which students (many times IB students) assist other students in a variety of subject areas, and an after-school Homework Help program that offers students a quiet space to work and support from a variety of teachers, including bilingual instructors.

For first language instruction in the IB program (called Group 1), RBR offers English A: Literature HL over 2 years. The first year focuses on close reading of three works, examining how authors create meaning through literary techniques. Students begin by analyzing summer texts and additional 20th and 21st century readings; study culminates in an Individual Oral Presentation of 10-15 minutes based on one of these works. Students then explore four works in translation, exploring the global context of each work through research, discussion and writing. By the end of the first year, students will have created a four-stage written analysis of one of the translated works. The second year involves two parts. First, the class conducts detailed study of several works of various genres. Students are assessed through an extensive oral evaluation which includes a formal oral commentary of poetry and a student-teacher discussion of a work of another genre. The second half of the year is spent reading and analyzing texts of a specific literary genre; students complete two year-end external written exams based on at least two works studied.

There are several options for a second language course (called Group 2): French, Italian, and Spanish, all offered at Standard Level and Higher Level. SL courses are conducted within 1 year, whereas HL courses are completed over 2 years. The SL course is designed for seniors upon completion of level 3, 3 honors, or accelerated language. The HL course is designed for juniors upon completion of level 3, 3 honors, or accelerated language. The main focus of both the SL and HL course is on language acquisition and development of language skills. Mastery of language skills is developed through the study and use of a range of written and spoken material and literary texts,

all of which relate to the culture of the countries where the language is spoken. All IB language courses are discussion-based, rely heavily on student interaction, and promote intercultural awareness and understanding. The areas of study include: communication and media, global issues, social relationships, cultural diversity, customs and traditions, health, leisure, and science and technology. The students also read and study two works of literature in the HL course. In addition to taking the culminating IB examinations, the students complete the IB written assignment and individual and interactive oral activities throughout the course.

Red Bank Regional offers various opportunities for students to expand their appreciation of studies in language and culture. There are numerous clubs and organizations in which students can become members, such as the Multicultural Club, Spanish National Honor Society, and French National Honor Society. The students also are exposed to world languages and cultures through several events each year, including International Night, the Hispanic Heritage Month assembly, and the Chinese New Year assembly.

